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Autism Appreciation Month at the Museum

Light it up blue all month long



April 1, 2019 (RALEIGH, N.C.) — Did you know that April marks Autism Appreciation Month? Throughout the month, the museum building will be lighted up blue and the museum will be hosting sensory friendly events to recognize and celebrate those with autism, sensory issues, and their families. Read on for awesome, autism-friendly events!

Sensory-Friendly Screening: Fly Me to the Moon (2008) Friday, Apr. 5, 6 p.m.

The museum will be hosting a sensory friendly screening of *Fly Me to the Moon* on Friday, April 5, at 6:00 p.m. Auditorium lights will be kept on during the movie screening and the volume will be down, guests are also able to move around and engage with the film throughout the screening. Cool down kits, featuring sensory friendly, toys will also be available in the museum lobby.

History à la Carte: Change the World with Chocolate

Wednesday, Apr. 10, noon-1 p.m.

Dan Friedman, owner of Special Treats, a chocolate Boutique, will also be the guest speaker for this month's History a la Carté. Special Treats sells chocolate made by adults with disabilities at non-profit workshops from around the country. Friedman exclusively employs adults with disabilities, and runs Special Treats with his son, who is also autistic.

<u>For information about the NC Museum of History</u>, a Smithsonian-affiliated museum, call 919-814-7000 or access <u>ncmuseumofhistory.org</u> or follow on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Google+</u> or <u>YouTube</u>.

About the NC Museum of History

The N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate, is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

About Smithsonian Affiliations

In association with the Smithsonian since 2006, the North Carolina Museum of History is part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share the Smithsonian's resources with the nation. Smithsonian Affiliations is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums, educational, and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. More information is available at www.affiliations.si.edu.

About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

The NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette's Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the NC Zoo, the nation's first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the NC Arts Council, State Preservation Office, and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-814-6800 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.